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**Recognizing 2026 Rhapsody Healthcare Heroes Award nominee: Anita Beatch**

**Community:** Lac La Biche

A Lac La Biche registered nurse is known for seeking out, emphasizing, and supporting the needs of vulnerable members, among others, in her community.

Anita Beatch, who now serves as manager for Area 7 Population and Public Health North, was recently nominated for a 2026 RHPAP Rhapsody Healthcare Heroes Award for her longtime efforts in serving her community in various healthcare roles.

“She leads with compassion, innovation, and an unwavering commitment to improving the health of every community member—especially those who are medically underserved or vulnerable,” writes Beatch’s nominator and colleague, Jennifer Gauthier.

Beatch, a lifetime Lac La Biche resident, is known for her “willingness to step up and contribute” whether as a health provider/leader or community volunteer with schools, daycare, or extracurricular activities.

Under Beatch's leadership, the Lac La Biche public health team has expanded its community outreach to Out of Elements Shelter (a homeless shelter), Hope Haven (women and children's shelter), and at local farmer's markets to provide health services such as immunizations and information on health issues such as sexually transmitted diseases.

"Her leadership empowers her staff to think creatively and compassionately about how to reach individuals who might otherwise fall through the cracks," says Gauthier.

"She has always been an active, engaged, and dependable presence in local life."

***The recipients of the 2026 Rhapsody Awards will be announced on May 20, 2026!***